

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the paragraphs listed below as shown:

[85] In yet another embodiment of the present invention, a CBE scheme combines a Hierarchical Identity Based Encryption (HIDE) scheme and a public-key encryption scheme. As in the non-hierarchical scheme discussed above, the encryption key can correspond to any document D. In the following description, the key is comprised [[to]] of parameters such as the recipient's identifying information ( $PK_{IDS}$ ), including the recipient's public key ( $PK_B$ ), and a parameter describing the schedule by which the authorizer issues new decryption keys.

[87] Secure and practical HIDE schemes are described in U.S. patent application no. 10/384,328, now U.S. Patent No. 7,349,538, issued on March 25, 2008, the contents of which are incorporated herein for all purposes by this reference.

[152] FIG. 10 illustrates one embodiment of a high-granularity CBE protocol. In FIG. 10, the successive time-periods 901 are represented by the leafs of a binary tree of height  $t$ . Here, successive time-periods are associated with the [[leafs]] leaves of the tree, which are labeled with strings  $< i >$  of length  $t$ , i.e. time period  $i$  is associated with the leaf labeled by  $< i >$ .